

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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HEROES OF THE NORTH-WEST

Six American States honour the memory of brave pioneers

Six north-western States of the U.S.A. are commemorating the 150th anniversary of the famous Lewis and Clark expedition whose perilous journey up the unexplored Missouri and over the Rocky Mountains secured for America the territory of the Pacific North-West. A replica of the fort used as winter quarters for 1805-1806 is being set up as a monument, and Boy Scouts have been retracing part of the old route, much of it still as wild as when the explorers first saw it during their epic journey.

THIS year the names of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, leaders of the expedition, have been on everybody's lips in North and South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. It was through these States that the pioneers passed.

At the beginning of last century Americans knew very little of the vast lands west of the Mississippi, and President Jefferson decided to send an expedition across it. Success would depend largely on how it fared with the Redskins, and the chosen leaders were Lewis, who knew much about Indians, and his boyhood friend, Clark, both Army officers.

HIDDEN WATCHERS

The starting point was St. Louis, where the Missouri joins the Mississippi. Up the great Missouri River they went in their boats, a party of 45 men rowing laboriously at the rate of about nine miles a day, till they reached the uncharted Dakota country. The rolling plains seemed to be populated only by huge herds of buffalo, deer, goat, and elk, but all the time keen Sioux eyes watched them.

The warlike Sioux were divided as to whether to let the white men pass, but at length invited them to a feast. Lewis realised that the Indians were trying to deceive them, and would probably kill them if they relaxed their vigilance.

He ordered his men into the boats and at this the Sioux assembled close by with bowstrings taut and arrows poised. The explorers cocked their muskets, but were hopelessly outnumbered. At the critical moment a chief, in favour of peace, persuaded his warriors not to fight, and the white men got away.

WINTER CAMP

It was now time to look for winter quarters, the month being October and the narrowing river ready to freeze. They were 171 days out from their starting point. So they made themselves snug but fortified quarters about 30 miles north of where the North Dakota town of Bismarck now stands.

In April they pushed on up the river in order to use its valley for

the crossing of the snow-capped Rockies. One of their Indian guides had a wife, still in her teens, who belonged to a tribe from those mountains, the Shoshones. They called her the Bird-Woman.

She alone of the party could find her way through the vast maze of forest, wild valley, and cruel mountain which lay ahead. She alone could speak to the Redskins of those parts. Her presence, with her baby, was a token of peace among those wild creatures, who had never before seen a white man.

THREE STREAMS

When the river became too swift for boats it was the Bird-Woman who found them horses. When there was nothing else to eat it was this girl who made an attractive meal out of bones. When even these brave explorers began to lose heart, as day after day the way grew harder, it was her good spirits which kept them from despair.

At last they came to a place where the Missouri branched into three streams, and they had to decide which was the one that would lead them towards the Rocky Mountains. Against the advice of their companions, Lewis and Clark chose the southern fork. It turned out to be right one.

JOURNEY'S END

They found the Shoshones, who, persuaded by the Bird-Woman, guided them on the terrible journey through the Bitter-root Mountains to the Clearwater River, which the starving men found full of salmon. Down it they sped at last in dugout canoes, eventually reaching the Columbia River and the Pacific.

They had covered over 4000 miles of prairie, forest, and mountain in constant peril from Indians, from wild animals or starvation, but they had extended the territory of the United States to the Pacific.

Gifts of land and money were made to the brave explorers and the Bird-Woman went back to her people. The only reward she received was the satisfaction of having helped others.

Perhaps it was all she asked.



Smiling portrait

Miss Noelle Sandwith of Carshalton, Surrey, with her happy portrait of Queen Salote of Tonga. Miss Sandwith lived in Tonga for a year and was granted the rare honour by the Queen of a sitting at her Palace.

THE POSTMAN WILL NOT CALL

The postal authorities in East Berlin now keep a list of all addresses where there is a dog inclined to bite postmen. The owners are warned, and if they pay no heed all delivery of letters and parcels is stopped.

GOSLING WEEDERS

Farmers in the San Joaquin Valley in California are using goslings to weed their cotton fields. They have found that the birds eat only the weeds, leaving the valuable cotton plants untouched. One farmer has had 66 acres cleared in a fortnight by 100 young geese.

NO CROWING, BY ORDER

Cockerels in the seaside resort on Norderney Island, West Germany, must not crow between dawn and dusk.

The authorities have issued an order to this effect, and birds that disobey it must either be slaughtered or kept outside the residential area. The order is in the interests of the tourist trade.

SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

No fewer than a thousand men have asked for a place in the forthcoming British Trans-Antarctic Expedition. But there are only twelve vacancies. The advance party goes at the end of this year, and will be away 2½ years.

GOLDEN RUNWAY

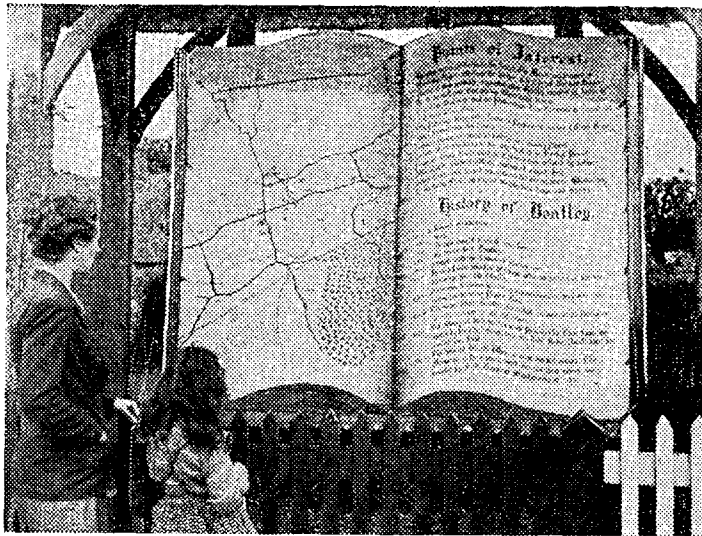
Air travellers will literally "land on gold" at Kalgoorlie, Australia, next year, after the new main runway is completed, for it will be paved with gold ore worth £22,500.

This will come from the famous old gold mine at Kanowna which assays 18 grains of gold to the ton. This is too low to make it economically payable at the present price of gold. But it is useful as "hard core."

ANNOYED BECAUSE THEIR TRAIN WAS PUNCTUAL

Season ticket-holders on the Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage line, South Africa, made an unusual complaint to the manager the other day.

Normally the 7.30 a.m. train runs anything from 15 to 30 minutes late, and the passengers make due allowance for this. But one morning the train was on time and about half of them missed it.



Big book of Bentley

This unusual sign at Bentley, in Hampshire, takes the form of a huge open book. It shows a map of the district and records local history. Carved from oak from the neighbouring Alice Holt forests, it was presented by Lord Baden-Powell, who lived in the village for many years.

TOWED BY HELICOPTER

A new use for the helicopter—already Jack of more trades than any other form of aircraft—came to light in America recently.

Around our own coastline helicopters have helped ships "throw" towropes to stranded vessels, rescued shipwrecked mariners, and ferried fire-fighting equipment and firemen to save burning ships. But the most unusual marine "salvage" task undertaken by a helicopter was when one actually towed a small vessel to shore.

The craft was a U.S. Navy patrol boat, the engine of which had broken down. A Piasecki H-21 twin-rotor helicopter attached a rope to its prow and dragged it safely to port.

MOVING NEARER THE NORTH POLE

Many Eskimo families of the Canadian Arctic have decided to move nearer the North Pole. They still live chiefly by hunting, and there is more game farther north.

Those who have already moved are enthusiastic about their new settlements and the Canadian Government has sent a ship to help other Eskimo families who wish to move before the winter.

PLASTIC PATCHES FOR BURST PIPES

Latest device for repairing burst water pipes is a metallic plastic patch which can be stuck on over the damaged area. The patch is largely made of glass plastic, takes about 15 minutes to set hard, and will take full pressure within half an hour.

The idea has recently been adopted by the U.S. Navy.

MORE WOOL

The wool trade has had a record year. For the first season on record the total from the Commonwealth, covering Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, has exceeded six million bales. Since pre-war days, world wool production has increased by about 16 per cent, but Australian production has gone up by 30 per cent, New Zealand's by 44 per cent.

AUSTRALIA AIDS CHILD ARTISTS

An organisation has been formed in Australia called the Asian-Australian Child Art Exchange.

It aims to encourage child artists in Australia and neighbouring Asian countries to portray their own lives, familiar surroundings, or imaginative ideas and to foster friendship and understanding between children in the Pacific region.

The first function of the new body was an exhibition of Asian and Australian children's paintings opened by Dame Sybil Thorndike in a Melbourne suburb.

Up to her job



A confident Air Wireless Mechanic fixes an aerial on the tail of a Vampire T11 at the R.A.F. Flying School at Little Rissington in Gloucestershire.

THIS PRECIOUS EARTH

When the New Zealand expedition to the Antarctic sets off next year they will take with them a bit of their own country—in the form of 200 lb. of rich earth. It is hoped that they will be able to grow green food, such as mustard and cress, on it. As Sir Edmund Hillary, leader of the expedition, has said: "We could get awfully sick of vitamin pills and lime juice."

The soil will be covered in a transparent plastic cocoon, and will be heated by a paraffin lamp.

The problems of Disarmament

The United Nations Disarmament Sub-committee meets in New York next Monday. They will begin discussions of one of the most grave and urgent international problems of our time.

The prospect of a war fought with hydrogen weapons is too terrible to contemplate. If mankind is to survive, disarmament is essential. But let us be quite clear what we mean by Disarmament.

A quarter of a century ago Britain tried "unilateral" disarmament. That is, she reduced her own forces in the hope that all other nations would follow her example. It proved to be a grave blunder, which only served to encourage Hitler and was one of the causes of the last war.

Today civilised nations recognise that all should disarm progressively stage by stage. Such a plan must have a timetable. It must also relate not only to atomic weapons but to "conventional" weapons—that is, the modern versions of the weapons (excluding the atomic bomb) with which the last war was fought.

SYSTEM OF CONTROL

It is not much use, for instance, for one country such as Russia to suggest destroying all atomic and hydrogen bombs alone, because this would still leave her with far greater numbers of men armed with conventional weapons.

Care must also be taken to make sure that any proposed reduction of armaments does not leave any country weaker than it is now, in proportion to the strength of another country.

It is also absolutely essential that there should be a proper system of control by an inspecting body, authorised to go wherever it chooses, in any country. For one of the direct causes of the last war was the secret re-arming of Germany.

Considerations of this kind have dogged the path of the peace-makers up to now. Last February, after many attempts at a practical plan, the United Nations sub-committee met at Lancaster House, London.

DIVIDEND

This sub-committee consists of representatives of Britain, the United States, Russia, France, and Canada. After sitting for more than three months it adjourned in May. However, some progress was made and Mr. Anthony Nutting, the British Minister of State, declared that the outcome represented "a dividend" for the careful and patient negotiation of Britain and her allies.

Since then we have had the Geneva Conference. All that was said about Disarmament there is to be considered when the sub-committee meets again on Monday.

Let us hope that the more promising world atmosphere will speed their discussions so that some real progress may be possible before the United Nations General Assembly meets in New York next month.

News from Everywhere

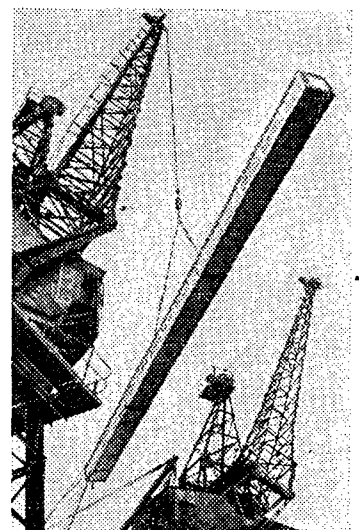
SELF-HELP

A fire which broke out in a New York street fire alarm call-box resulted in the arrival of two escape ladders, four fire engines, a rescue company, and three police cars.

A projection room is to be built in the Palace of Westminster for showing documentary films to M.P.s.

A new London Air Terminal is to be built over the Underground railway track between Earls Court and Gloucester Road stations.

Unusual cargo



Not a girder, but a well-packed boat of a rowing club being handled at London Docks.

Sir Winston Churchill's new lion in the London Zoo has been named Rusty; his coat has a reddish tinge.

LITTER PATROL

Boy Scouts voluntarily worked for three hours collecting litter from New Bridge, a Dartmoor beauty spot.

A 426-foot statue of Christ is to be set up on a hill 20 miles from Rome. It will stand on a 126-foot-high base housing a museum devoted to Peace.

335 MILES IN 27 MINUTES

Twice within a few days Squadron Leader Roger Topp set up a new record for the flight from Edinburgh to Farnborough in his Hawker Hunter. His best time for the 335-mile journey was 27 minutes 46 seconds, an average speed of 717 m.p.h.

The Parish Church of Robin Hood's Bay, Yorkshire, now has a collection of models of merchant ships, fishing vessels, and lifeboats.

Mr. Zekeria Mungonya, who recently became Uganda's first African Minister, used to walk 200 miles to school six times a year through country infested with lions.

LOCKED IN

A cow found swimming in one of the Panama Canal locks had to be towed out before traffic could pass.

Sir Christopher Gibson, author and explorer, is to lead an expedition to search for the source of the Amazon.

One hundred acres of land was sown with wheat from the air near Melbourne recently, taking two hours as against 2½ days by the usual methods.

Transport through the Years—from the Ice Age to the present day—is to go on permanent exhibition at London's Science Museum when extensions have been completed.

BARGAIN

A 12-year-old boy of Munster, Germany, saw an advertisement in a shop window saying: "We sell our shoes for an apple and an egg," a local expression meaning for next to nothing. But the lad took the shopkeeper at his word and offered an apple and an egg for a pair of shoes. He got his shoes—and the shopkeeper promptly withdrew the notice!

Britain is to set up a new meteorological station near the South Magnetic Pole.



Snapped by a Princess

Princess Benedikte of Denmark snaps a friend wearing national costume on the sands at Fanø, a holiday island off Esbjerg.

THOSE TUBELESS TYRES

Far-reaching claims are being made nowadays for the new tyres without a tube.

Now one firm of manufacturers have gone out of their way to publish details of tests designed to prove such claims.

At the wheel of a family saloon a test driver roared round a Wiltshire racing track at speed. In the process he thrashed his tyres in punishing fashion.

Photographs taken on corners as the car went through, flat out, showed that the tyres were distorted. But a check afterwards revealed that tyre pressures were the same as before.

The driver then tried kerb-crashing but the tyres still held their air. He next put on the brakes at full lock, but the only effect on the Airseal tyres was to drag them along the ground.

Finally came the toughest treatment of all. This time the car

was driven over steel spikes set in concrete. They bit into the tyres, but still no air was lost.

Unlike the ordinary tyre with its separate outer cover and inner tube, the tubeless tyre is all in one. It could be described as an inner tube made so strong that it can run on the road. No air can escape between the rubber and the wheel rim. If a nail, say, does pierce the tyre, air escapes only through the puncture itself and owing to special construction does this so slowly that the motorist can go on for several hundred miles before he needs to change the wheel.

Higher mileage is another advantage with this tyre. It generates less heat, has a lower rolling resistance, and is more flexible. Moreover, it keeps its correct pressure for months without attention, preventing excessive wear caused either by under or over-inflation.

THEY FOUND A BOX OF GOLD

Hunting for "pirate gold" on wasteland in Stockholm some Swedish children were prodding the ground with a pointed stick and occasionally unearthing a brickbat or a piece of old iron.

Suddenly one of them cried: "There's something hollow under here!" and proceeded to dig up an old box with a rusty lock. The box was full of gold and silver—coins, rings, and a chain. Experts have found that the hoard dates from the 16th century, and are now examining it.

Naturally the finders are proud. All their friends call them "the gold-diggers."

GIANT GLOBE

The world's largest revolving globe was recently dedicated at a college in Wellesley, Massachusetts. Higher than a two-storey house, this steel globe cost a quarter of a million dollars to build and stands out in the open. A special weatherproof enamel protects the surface, which represents lands and oceans to a scale of 24 miles to one inch.

A motor rotates the globe round its axis, while another drives it round a circular track to demonstrate the seasons. The parts have been so accurately machined that the 40-ton weight can easily be moved.

LONG TOW—LONG BILL

The longest tow in modern seafaring history ended in Cape Town, South Africa, recently when the tug Rescue arrived from Salvador, Brazil, with the 7000-ton freighter Felicia.

The Felicia, a Liberian ship, was bound from British Columbia to South Africa when she lost her propeller off the north coast of Brazil and had to be towed to Salvador. There it was decided to make the rest of the 4000-mile voyage to Cape Town in tow.

The average speed was four to five knots all the way in spite of storms and officials stated that the tow is not only a record for distance, but probably also for expense.



Festival Time in flowers

Mother Goose, in the picture on the left, was one of the exhibits at Tokyo's annual flower festival. The swan, made from 20,000 artificial roses, toured Europe to advertise the famous lake flower pageant at Gmunden, in Austria.

YORKSHIRE TRIUMPH IN WALES

Yorkshire boys and girls scored a resounding triumph at the Welsh National Eisteddfod at Pwllheli. The Huddersfield Technical College Madrigal Choir were the only English singers competing in the Eisteddfod but, though singing in Welsh, they received 184 marks out of 200, or 26 more than the next choir in the list in their particular contest.

The secret was that a Welshman is Musical Organiser of the Huddersfield Education Committee.

He also trained and conducted the Huddersfield Youth Orchestra of 70 boys and girls who, at the Eisteddfod, entered 14 different orchestral and instrumental competitions. They won 12 of the competitions and were second in the two others.

PORTRAIT GALLERY FOR LEEDS

Leeds Guildhall is to be adorned with eleven white marble busts presented by Mr. J. Clifford Sherburn of Bournemouth. The busts include those of Sir Richard Arkwright, the Duke of Wellington, Napoleon, Nelson, Shakespeare, Sir Walter Scott, Socrates, and Cicero.

SUNNY SIDE OF THE ISLAND

Cyprus has been much in the news recently owing to the movement there for union with Greece. Not so much is heard about what British rule has done for this lovely island.

A useful guide to this side of the question is the new coloured photoposter issued by the Colonial Office, which shows eleven pictures of life in Cyprus and also gives a brief outline of its history, trade, and development. It reminds us that since the malaria in 1949 was stamped out, Cyprus has had one of the best health records in the world, and that the island's trade has increased from under £5,000,000 in 1938 to over £35,000,000.

The poster, an attractive decoration for a school or club wall, can be obtained for 1s. 7½d. from the Stationery Office, P.O. Box 569, London, S.E.1.

FACTORY BREATHES IN AND OUT

In an American factory producing jet aircraft for the navy, the ear-splitting roar of engines being run up outside was so distracting to workers that the management decided that they should be "insulated."

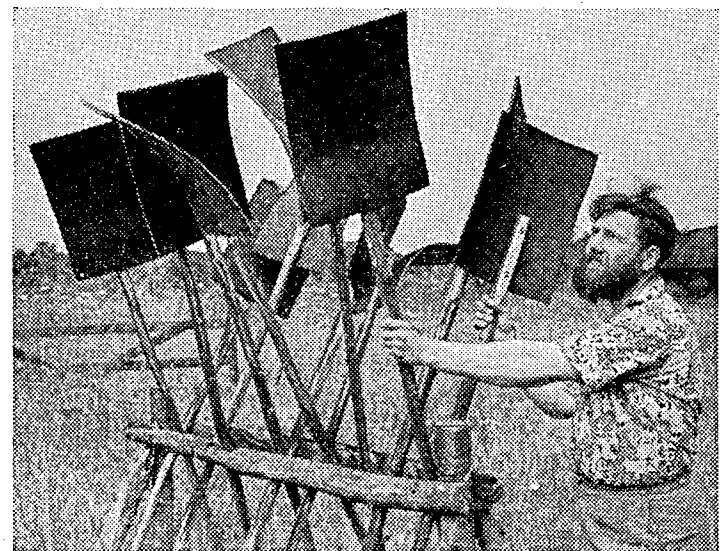
The factory was given sound-proofed walls, ceilings, and windows, sealing out the noise and sealing in the air. The whole building was made to work like a giant lung, breathing in clean, fresh air and breathing out fumes and stale air with the temperature and moisture properly controlled.

GARDEN FOR THE BLIND

In New York's Central Park over half an acre has been laid out as a Garden of Fragrance for blind people. The gravel paths have rails on one side and kerbs on the other. The whole scheme has been paid for by a memorial foundation. There is a smaller garden with the same purpose in Brooklyn Botanical Gardens.

SEA-SERPENT SEASON

A sea-serpent seen in Norway's biggest lake, Mjosa, was reported to be more than 40 feet long, as thick as a telegraph pole, and travelling at great speed.



For fighting fires

These fire-beaters in a State Forest in Gloucestershire are cut from old canvas conveyor-belts used in coal mines. They are found to be more efficient than the broom type of beater.

NEW REFUGE FOR WILD FOWL

Twenty square miles of tidal flats and water between Brough and Trent Falls, on the Humber, are to become a sanctuary for wildfowl. This will protect the main Humber roosting area of the pink-footed geese so that wintering flocks can be increased.

Nearly all the 40,000 to 50,000 pink-footed geese in the world winter in the British Isles, and about one-tenth of them on the Humber. But numbers there were much greater 20 to 30 years ago.

The new refuge will also protect ducks and waders.

TREE OVER 2000 YEARS OLD

Experts from the Ministry of Agriculture have been invited to assist in preventing the decay of an ancient plane tree which stands in the main square of the little port of Kos on the island of that name in the Dodecanese.

This plane tree is generally thought to be 2300 years old and the one under which Hippocrates, "the father of medicine," taught. He was born on the island.

WOOL GATHERING

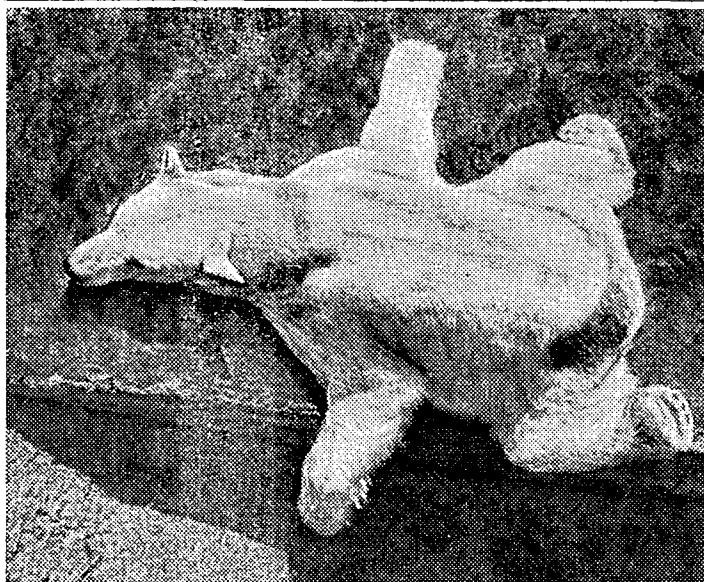
A world conference of wool research scientists and technologists, thought to be the first ever held, is now meeting in Australia for three weeks.

Australia, as the world's greatest wool-producing country, and Britain, as one of the largest consumers of wool, are taking a leading part in this great International Wool Textile Research Conference, which includes the representatives of the 12 main wool-producing or consuming countries.

No fewer than 140 lectures and demonstrations on wool technology are planned in three towns—Melbourne, Geelong, and Sydney—and there will also be visits to sheep farms so that the demands of scientist, manufacturer, and consumer can be explained and then translated into practical production.

SLOT MACHINE TYPISTS

Self-service typewriters have appeared in America. By inserting a 25-cent coin—about 1s. 9d.—in a slot, the machine unlocks and allows the typewriter to be used for 30 minutes. Ten sheets of foolscap paper are provided.



Flat out

Ivy, mother of Brumas, spreads herself out in the summer sun at the London Zoo.



Soap-box Derby

This speedy pedal-car, made by Salisbury Scouts, is to compete in the finals of the Boy Scouts' National Soap-box Derby at Morecambe early next month.

IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK

Henry Tudor seizes throne

AUGUST 22, 1485. LEICESTER—The crown of England, found on the battlefield, was today put upon the brows of the Welsh-born Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond.

The defeat of Richard III's forces and that monarch's death in the battle today concludes Henry's 14-day invasion of England and establishes him as undisputed sovereign.



Henry the Seventh

This decisive battle was fought near Market Bosworth, 12 miles west of Leicester.

King Richard—wearing the crown—marched out of Leicester yesterday morning with what appeared to be the largest armed force ever seen in England, and last night his army encamped at

a point two miles south of Market Bosworth.

Henry Tudor camped three miles from him with an army composed of English exiles, French soldiers, and the Welsh who flocked to his standard on his march from Milford Haven.

Both armies prepared for battle early this morning. King Richard ordered the attack, and the engagement began with showers of arrows, backed by volleys from Henry's cannon. Richard, seeing his men were half-hearted, dashed ahead over a hill and killed two men, throwing a third to the ground.

Later in the battle King Richard was surrounded and killed. His body was brought into Leicester across a horse's back.

Henry Tudor announces his intention of being crowned in London as King Henry VII, and will thus establish a new royal dynasty—the House of Tudor.

Death of famous engineer

AUGUST 25, 1819. BIRMINGHAM—Mr. James Watt, the distinguished Scottish engineer, died today at Heathfield Hall, his residence near Birmingham.

The aged scientist-engineer has continued his researches even since he retired from the firm of Boul-

ton & Watt 19 years ago and had a workshop which he had fitted up at his residence.

Most widely-known of his inventions was the "Watt" steam engine, patented in 1769; but he also invented copying-ink and discovered the composition of water.

Volcano havoc continues

AUGUST 27, 1883. CHERIBON, Java—Fearful havoc caused by yesterday's eruption of the volcanic island of Krakatoa continued today when 50-foot-high tidal waves swept out of existence whole towns in Sumatra and Java.

The lighthouses in the Sunda Strait all disappeared, and the effects of the tidal wave are reported to have actually reached Cape Horn, 7818 miles away.

Krakatoa, a small volcanic island in Sunda Strait, between Java and Sumatra, erupted yesterday. The loud explosion which began the eruption was heard 400

miles away, in Java. The sound waves travelled 3000 miles.

Ashes fell on this seaport—more than 200 miles away—and for miles every green thing was cloaked in thick grey dust. In areas near the Strait the dust was followed by great showers of mud and stones.

The 1000-foot hills on the island have utterly disappeared, and are now replaced by an abyss as many feet below the sea.

It is impossible to state the number of lives lost, but it is feared that the number is as great as 50,000.

RADIO AND TV

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE AT THE RADIO SHOW

MOST people agree that the radio and TV season really begins with the National Radio Show, opening at Earls Court, London, this Wednesday and continuing until September 3. Radio listeners and viewers will be able to share a good deal of the excitement without leaving their sets at home, although, of course, the exhibition ought to be visited by all who want to keep abreast of the latest in every branch of radio.

TV shows will come from three parts of the Hall—outside broadcasts from the Arena, stage shows from the BBC's sound and vision studio, and other programmes, including the children's, from the Radio Industry Council's own glass-walled studio.

Two big circuses, Billy Smart's and Dick Chipperfield's, join forces for the opening Arena show this Wednesday. Then comes Sports Jackpot, on Thursday; the Country Comes to Town, on Friday; and Youth in Command, on Saturday.

In this programme the Arena will be filled with some 500 young people from all kinds of youth organisations—Service cadets, the Boys' Brigade, the Girls' Training Corps, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, and many others. Watch for the Woodland Branch of the Pony Club in their musical ride. There will be stilt drill and an Indian totem parade, too, leading

to the Grand Finale with flags of 70 nations.

Prudence Kitten will be the first star in Children's TV at the show this Wednesday. Harry Corbett and Sooty have an appointment there on Saturday.

Twenty Questions on Thursday is among the famous sound pro-



Prudence Kitten

grammes to be broadcast from the BBC studio.

Visitors to the show will be specially interested in the BBC gallery exhibit dealing with the News—how it is received, prepared, and broadcast throughout the world in over 100 bulletins every 24 hours in 41 different languages.

The Goons will soon be back again

THOSE crazy people, the Goons, will soon be back for a new series in the Home Service. Meanwhile, I hear they have made a great conquest in Canada.

When Light Entertainment Chief Pat Hillyard was over there recently he took two Goon Show recordings "in case this particular form of humour appealed to our Canadian friends." The Canadians went nearly as wild as the Goons themselves, deciding that Ned Seagoon, Major Bloodnok, and Will Eccles were the craziest people this side of the stratosphere.

A shipment of Goon recordings has now been despatched across the Atlantic in fireproof canisters.

Goose chase



Comedian Max Bygraves had to visit the American Embassy to get papers to take his goose to the U.S. The goose is the one that appeared in pantomime last winter.

Three scenes of beauty

IF you are in search of the picturesque, let me commend three TV programmes this week which should be well worth watching simply for the beauty of the scene.

First is on Thursday evening, when the cameras pay two visits to the lovely gardens at Bodnant, the Denbighshire home of Lord and Lady Aberconway. Laid down in 1875, the gardens are renowned for their splendid views across the lawns to the River Conway and the Snowdon Range.

The following evening the scene changes to the magnificent Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle, where viewers will see the Military Tattoo, including the massed bands and drums joined with a display of Highland dancing by men of all the Scottish regiments.

To round off this tale of scenic beauty, on Saturday afternoon the TV cameras will line the banks of the River Avon in St. Nicholas Park, Warwick, for the annual Venetian fête. The parade of decorated boats will be seen against the perfect setting of Warwick Castle and its woods.

On the road

WHEREAS commercial TV, when it starts on September 22, will be limited for a time to the London area and later Birmingham, the BBC is stressing the fact that its own television can reach 90 per cent of the population.

To encourage regional interest, the BBC is starting a road company of star variety artistes who will travel during the winter from Plymouth to Aberdeen.

First attempts

JOHN MASON, aged 16, who comes from Brighton, will probably be the youngest tenor to sing on the BBC. He is one of the young people in First Attempts in Children's Hour next Saturday. Two other singers we shall hear are Marie Dible (16) of Bromley, Kent, and Susan Barker (17) of St. Leonards-on-Sea. Margaret Susan (15) of Lancing, Sussex, will play the piano, and Pauline Stanley (16) of Shepherds Bush, London, the accordion.

Auditions for these monthly programmes are held every six months, and all young people of between 12 and 17 who would like to try their talent on the air for the first time should apply to their nearest BBC centre. Rather fewer than 50 per cent of applicants manage to win through to a broadcast.

Barbara Sleight, who introduces the programme, is the wife of "David" Davis, of Children's Hour.

Perfect actors Down in the Forest

TRY not to miss Down in the Forest in Children's TV on Friday. This is a little film mainly about baby kangaroos and was made by the Australian National Film Board.

Although it lasts only five minutes it recently won high praise



A mother kangaroo with her baby in her pouch



A koala slumbers on

not long ago at the Venice Film Festival.

Among other creatures popping into the picture are koala bears, a wild cat, and a cux-cux, a small creature like an opossum. Quite heedless of the camera, they make perfect film actors.

ERNEST THOMSON

THE MAGIC OF THE PROMS



THIS is the 61st season of the Promenade Concerts, now being held at the Royal Albert Hall, and yet another feast of enjoyment for the tens of thousands who know and love them. The season, with a total of 49 performances, lasts till September 17.

This wonderful series of orchestral concerts reaches greater and greater audiences every year. There are great-grandfathers, still going strong, who still enjoy listening to them as they have done since the start in 1895. And since 1927, when the BBC took over, the Proms have ceased to be merely a London affair but have come to be a feature of the summer, looked forward to all over the country and beyond the seas.

LIVING TRADITION

You can, of course, hear a concert on the air any week you like. So, it may be asked, what is so special about these gatherings in the Royal Albert Hall?

The answer, largely, is the audience. There is a tradition living in it, somehow, which nobody

who has ever been a part of it is likely to forget. This tradition is one of attentiveness and enthusiasm appreciated by conductors and players alike. But the tradition is also one of good manners—for an audience *can* be bad-mannered, you know, by fidgeting, whispering, or clapping in the wrong places.

The essence of the whole thing is, of course, the Promenade; that is, the central space cleared of seats on which much of the audience stands throughout the performance. This was the core of the original idea, because such an arrangement enabled more people to use the available space. This, in turn, made it possible to sell more tickets and thus keep the price of admission low.

The original charge at the Queen's Hall in 1895 for the Promenade—or standing room—was one shilling. Now Promenade tickets cost half-a-crown. But the enthusiasm remains the same.

A lover of the Proms once wrote about "the vast multitude whose

debt joyfully multiplies with each succeeding season." If you go to the Albert Hall now you do indeed find yourself in the midst of a multitude of all ages, from seventeen to seventy, who are expecting to enjoy *together* the finest that music can give. They are not, as in an ordinary concert, so many individuals who have paid to come in. They are more like the members of a club.

Many of them know the players in the orchestra by sight, and the leaders of the various sections are given a round of applause as they appear. Many of the soloists are felt to be almost personal friends. When, say, Benno Moiseiwitsch comes on to play one of the Rachmaninoff piano concertos you may very likely be standing next to someone who remembers his first appearance at the Proms and has never missed one since.

All this adds up to something not easy to explain but very exciting to experience. Uncounted thousands of all ages must have received their first revelation of what great music can mean at these gatherings.

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

The founder of it all was Ernest Newman, a business man turned professional singer, who combined the two early influences of his career, commerce and music, by becoming the lessee of the old Queen's Hall, in Langham Place (almost next door to where Broadcasting House now stands). The money was put up by a Dr. Cathcart, an eminent surgeon, and a great lover of music. An up-and-coming conductor, Henry Wood, then 25 years old, was selected as the conductor and he was to have a permanent orchestra whose members should be thoroughly used to playing together.

Even so there were only three rehearsals a week, and no preliminary week of rehearsing before the opening of the season as there is nowadays.

Dr. Cathcart wanted to persuade

as big a public as possible to the concerts, but in those pre-broadcasting days there were far fewer people willing to listen to the great works. So while the first part of each concert was devoted to the classics, the second was devoted to ballads (as the popular songs of the day were called) and to other light feature items. Another idea of the doctor's was to have a big fountain, full of goldfish and decked with flowers, in the centre of the promenade.

Stalls for selling ices and sweets were grouped round the edge of the central space and during the second season the great novelty of Moving Pictures was shown in the adjoining small Queen's Hall during the interval and after the performance.

London had not known any musical entertainment like this before and flocked to hear this fine music and see this bearded young man, Henry Wood, conducting it so forcefully year after year.

Even during the London Blitz of 1940 the Proms carried on until the authorities decided it was too dangerous for such a great body of people to be together in one building. But until then audiences refused to be intimidated—such is the power of the Proms.

BOMBED OUT

When the raids were bad they would stay in the hall all night while members of the orchestra gave impromptu entertainment.

In the summer of 1941 the Queen's Hall was bombed into ruins.

In 1944 the concerts were transferred to Bedford, and it was within a fortnight of the Jubilee concert, marking the 50th season of the Proms, that the great Sir Henry Wood died.

The next season was the first of peacetime again and audiences saw a bust of their old conductor looking down over them from just



Sir Henry Wood, the man who built up the great tradition of the Proms

below the organ loft of the Royal Albert Hall which was to be the Promenaders' new home.

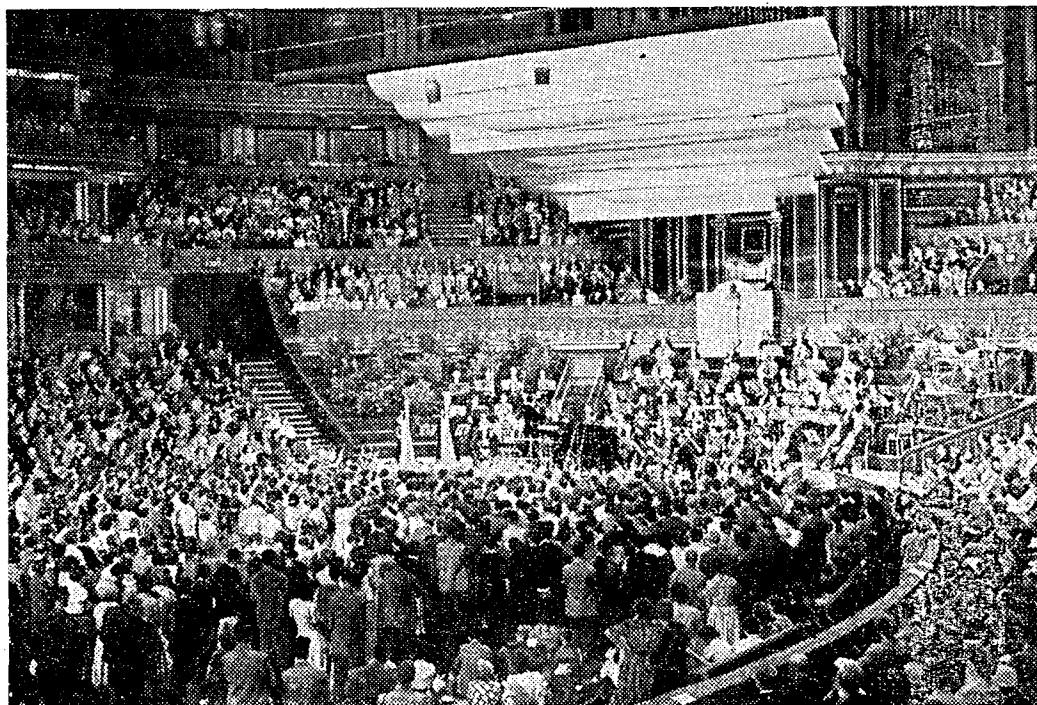
If ever a conductor put a personal touch into a concert for the benefit of everyone, it was Sir Henry Wood. He maintained strict discipline with players and audience alike, but he knew how to break his own rules. One of these was strict timing (people have homeward trains to catch) and as a result there were no encores.

EXCEPTION TO THE RULE

Trefor Jones, a favourite singer at the Proms, was once called back many times for a song. He knew that no encore was permitted. But Sir Henry suddenly leaned from his rostrum and whispered to him, "Now just sing it again, Trefor, as beautifully as you sang it before." The effect was all the greater because it was an exception to the rule.

On the last night of the season, when the great conductor was himself called back again and again after the performance, he used to come on in his hat and coat as a sign that now *everybody* must go home.

The spirit of great music and intimate enjoyment which he infused all those years ago still lives and makes the Proms what they are. A Prom is not just a concert to be heard; to savour it fully you must be there, and then it becomes an unforgettable event. A. V. I.



Real enthusiasm, in the audience and the players, is the secret of the Promenade Concerts; and Sir Malcolm Sargent is just the conductor to inspire it

Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars . London . EC4
AUGUST 27 1955

WONDERFUL WORLD

Time has brought us marching into a world that is like a miracle from day to day; it moves from one wonder to another, from one marvel to a marvel greater yet. Those who are old can hardly believe their eyes; those who are young can hardly understand how wonderful this world is.

Arthur Mee.

HALF a century ago one of Britain's most distinguished scientists wrote with prophetic insight about the possibilities of nuclear research. He suggested that the harnessing of atomic power could transform a desert continent, thaw the frozen poles, make the whole world one smiling Garden of Eden, and even enable men to explore the outer realms of space.

His was a vision of a far distant future, yet such has been the pace of scientific progress since his time that already we stand on the threshold of a new Atomic Age.

The wonders that lie ahead have been underlined at the international conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy.

Ever since 1945 the peoples of the world have been aware of the awful power that lies in the atom. The Conference has opened up new vistas of this mighty force being harnessed, not to destroy mankind, but to bring it incalculable blessings.



OUR HOMELAND

DO'S AND DON'TS FOR DOG OWNERS

AN amusing free leaflet called The Dog-Owners' Code has been issued by several animal welfare societies.

Illustrated by Fougasse, the leaflet has "do's" on one side and "don'ts" on the other. Among the "do's" are: giving the dog somewhere to sleep that is dry and sheltered from draughts; giving it a collar showing its name and address; feeding it at the same time every day.

The "don'ts" include: shutting the dog up for long periods; leaving it in a car with the windows closed; letting it worry neighbours by prolonged barking.

An unhealthy untrained dog, we are reminded, is a misery to itself, an annoyance to neighbours, a danger to livestock and traffic, and a nuisance to its owner.

Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper, August 29, 1925

"SORRY I'm five minutes late," said the French airman as he stepped out in Paris where he had glided from the sky.

He was the first man to short-circuit Europe in three days, and was a little disturbed to find that he had taken five minutes more than schedule time.

There were, in fact, two of him, Captain Arrachart and M. Carol, though it was the captain who offered the apology for unpunctuality. Imagine a traveller being five minutes late when he had taken in Constantinople, Moscow, and Copenhagen on the run.

TREASURE DENIED

THE countless gold of a merry heart,
The rubies and pearls of a loving eye,
The idle man never can bring to the mart,
Nor the cunning hoard up in his treasury.

William Blake

A summer's day in the Devonshire hamlet of Uppottery.

The Editor's Table

Philately and the philosopher

FOUR stamps issued this month by the Greek Post Office commemorate the 2500th anniversary of the founding of Pythagoras's first school of philosophy.

One of the stamps illustrates the famous theorem by which most schoolboys and schoolgirls remember him; some of them can even prove that "the square of the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides."

But Pythagoras has meant far more than that to the world. He invented the very word philosopher—a lover of wisdom, a seeker after truth—and his noble ideas have influenced men's minds down the centuries.

The modern Greeks are to be congratulated on keeping green the memory of an ancient thinker to whom mankind is more indebted than it realises.

Many Happy Returns



Prince Richard of Gloucester, who will be eleven on Friday, lends a hand to builders working at his home.

Think on These Things

ONE of the most magnificent passages in the Bible is the lament of David for Saul and Jonathan (2 Samuel 1).

Saul had been a deadly enemy to David, and had pursued him with a most bitter hatred. There might have seemed every reason to rejoice at the news of his death. Yet David was great enough to recognise and acknowledge the good in his enemy. In moving and memorable words, which flow like some majestic music, he praises the good qualities in Saul.

David forgave his enemy. Jesus, also, has told us to forgive our enemies and to pray for them.

For God has forgiven us, and so we must ourselves be ready to forgive. O. R. C.

JUST AN IDEA

Wisdom is always at home to those who call.

THEY SAY . . .

THE West can be wilder 30° west of Greenwich than ever it was in Texas.

The Shipbuilding and Shipping Record

WHEN we have fuller knowledge we can show the cabbage plant how it can grow into a super cabbage plant. Such an accomplishment might hold out important hope for many people of the world who would like to have cabbage for dinner, but just don't have any at all.

Arthur Snell, American scientist

HERE in our Lincolnshire hamlet we trim our paraffin lamps and read about plans to launch earth satellites and space rockets.

Rev. R. C. Gaul, Rector of Rand

THE Viscount has so far given us 100 per cent operational performance with not a single delay due to mechanical faults. That is more than any airline could hope for with a new plane.

President of Capital Airlines of America, on Britain's Vickers Viscount

WORD QUIZ

Can you say whether a, b, or c gives the correct meaning of the following five words?

1. REVERT
a Repeal or cancel
b Face wall with masonry
c Return to former state
2. EFFLUENT
a Abounding in riches
b Flowing forth
c Flowing apart
3. OVATE
a Egg-shaped
b Applaud
c Dedicated to religion
4. GARBLE
a Wash throat with antiseptic
b Projection of stone from wall
c Mutilate so as to misrepresent
5. AUSPICIOUS
a Clearly visible
b Favourable
c Prone to suspicion

Answer on page 12

Out and About

ONE of the minor bathing hazards at this time of year is a sting from a "jelly-fish." It is while the tide is coming in that the jelly-fish are most likely to be inshore, and the wind may help to drift them, too.

The stinging-hairs on the tentacles of a jelly-fish are a feature which is shared by the sea-anemones you see in the little rock-pools. The "petals" (really tentacles) of the anemones have less obvious but similar hairs which can paralyse shrimps with their sting.

Sea-anemones are indeed closely related to jelly-fish, and both are, more distantly, related to coral polyps, strange as it may seem. C. D. D.

Next Week's Birthdays

August 28

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832). Germany's greatest poet and dramatist; also statesman and scientist. A serious illness in his first year as a law student turned his thoughts to the religious and philosophical problems which were the constant preoccupation of his life. Many of them are revealed in his great verse-drama, Faust.



August 29

Count Maurice Maeterlinck (1862-1949). Belgian man of Letters. The Blue Bird, The Life of the Bee, and others of his books, much concerned with the mystery of life, were translated into many languages. In 1911 he won the Nobel Prize for Literature.

August 30

Baron Rutherford of Nelson, O.M. (1871-1937). Physicist. Won a scholarship from his native New Zealand to Cambridge where he did brilliant work at the Cavendish Laboratories. He later revolutionised science by his study of the structure of the atom.

August 31

Théophile Gautier (1811-1872). French dramatic poet, also journalist, novelist and travel writer. He was a great figure in the Second Empire (1852-71) which lavished recognition and honours upon him.

September 1

Edward Alleyn (1566-1626). Actor and founder of Dulwich College. A leading figure in the entertainment business of Shakespeare's London he was both shrewd and benevolent, and this enabled him to found and endow the College of God's Gift.

September 2

Sir Robert Bruce Lockhart (1881). Writer. Acted as our Consul-General in Moscow 1915-17. He was arrested by the Bolsheviks and imprisoned in the Kremlin. To secure his release he was exchanged for Litvinoff, later Foreign Minister of the U.S.S.R. He tells of his thrilling adventures in Memoirs of a British Agent.

September 3

Matthew Boulton (1728-1809). Partner of James Watt, the inventor of the steam engine. Watt supplied the idea, Boulton the business acumen which translated the idea into a practical and profitable proposition. Success was not achieved easily, but he never despaired himself and he never allowed Watt to despair.



The Children's Newspaper, August 27, 1955

THE HUT MAN writes about . . .

ADVENTURE BY WAYSIDE AND WOODLAND

8. Hunting for galls

A GALL is a curious growth which appears on plants as the result of irritation caused by an insect or some other small creature, and often by an attacking fungus. As August is an ideal month for finding these strange growths I am sure girls and boys will be interested in becoming better acquainted with them.

Before discussing the different kinds to be found during a country ramble let us briefly learn the story of how a gall is formed by insect attack. As an example we will choose one of the most familiar—the Oak Apple.

WASP WITH A STILETTO

Early in the year a minute and wingless wasp runs up the trunk of the oak and out along its branches till she reaches the tightly closed buds on the twigs. With the sharp little tubular stiletto at the tip of her body she pierces the base of a bud, depositing in the wound a number of eggs which in time become grubs that feed on their surrounding nursery wall.

Irritated by the movement of the grubs the oak pushes them out in a mass of soft, pulpy matter which quickly grows to the size of a



Oak-apple galls

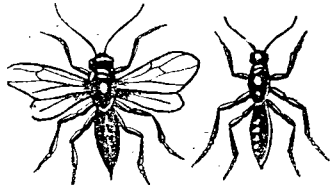
medium potato, and from green becomes a pretty rose tint.

Inside the gall the grubs become separated, each forming its own nursery where it grows to full size, pupates, and finally becomes a perfect adult gall-wasp. It then eats its way to the outer air, but, unlike their mother, this new generation of gall-wasps have four gauzy wings.

After a short mating flight the females fly to the ground, burrow

down to the oak tree's roots, and in the roots they lay eggs which turn to grubs and form galls similar to those grown by the twigs; but when the adult wasps eventually escape from the subterranean nurseries they are wingless . . . and we are back to the start of our story again.

Here we have the strange life cycles known as "alternate generations"; the ant-like wingless gall-wasp which runs up the oak's trunk has a winged mother from the branches, a wingless grand-



The winged and wingless gall-wasp

mother from the roots, a winged great-grandmother from the branches, and so on. With certain variations the story of all our insect galls is similar.

It is remarkable that the oak, one of our mighty trees, should be selected for gall-wasp attack to a greater extent than any other single plant. The Oak Apples we have mentioned are found chiefly on large oaks, but on the twigs of stunted hedgerow trees, or on the suckers sent up by the stump when an oak has been felled, we will find the equally familiar Marble Galls.

These are hard little woody balls each of which contains a solitary grub. The adult wasps are easily procured by placing a few perfect Marble Galls in a jam-jar over the mouth of which a piece of muslin is tied.

The leaves of the oak also house numerous common galls. On their undersides we will find beautiful little red balls (at first green) known as Red Pea Galls. Also on the undersides of the leaves are two tiny galls which often cluster in large numbers and look at first glance like little brown warts. On closer inspection, however, one will be seen to have a perfectly

scalloped edge; this is the Spangle Gall. The other, with a tiny depression in the centre and fine radiating lines, is the Silk-button Gall.

All gall names are delightfully descriptive, making them easy to remember. Those we have mentioned of the oak, even the very tiny Spangle and Silk-button, are caused by insects.

There is space left to mention only a few of the very many galls to be found on other plants, and those selected are both common and easily seen.

One of the most beautiful is called the Robin's Pincushion Gall, a moss-like growth on sprays of the wild rose, which is green in its early stages but later on becomes tinted with yellow and red and orange. Though moss-like on the outside the main body of this gall is a fleshy swelling on the stem, and if cut through will disclose quite a number of grub-occupied nurseries.

FUNGUS ATTACK

The Blister Gall is another very common type found always on the midrib of willow leaves; it is red on the upper side of the leaf and green underneath, containing a single nursery cell.

Among the galls caused by fungus attack the most obvious is the Witch's Broom Gall, a tight mass of twigs, often dotting the branches of birch trees till they look like the nests of some small species of rook. When newly formed the forced twigs are the first to open into leaf in Spring, covering the tree with green balls, but these twigs quickly die and the gall then takes its most familiar form—a mass of dead and brittle twiglets among the living branches.

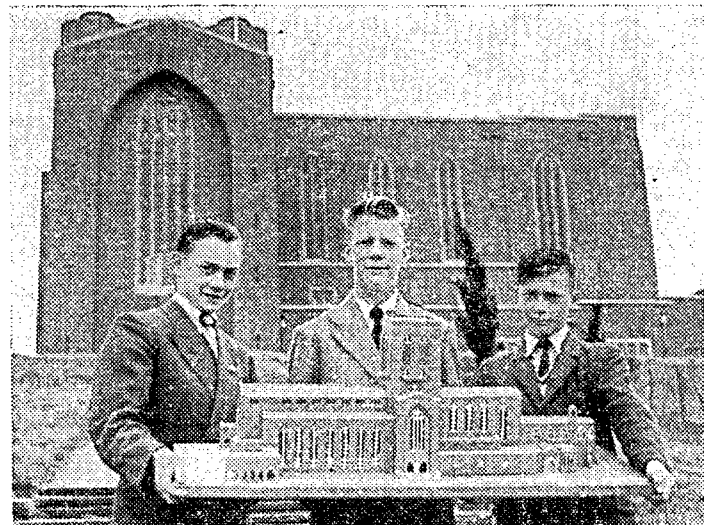
INTERESTING COLLECTION

Very many other galls will be found during even one short outing, for there is not a species of plant in the countryside which always escapes the attentions of the gall-making insects and fungi.

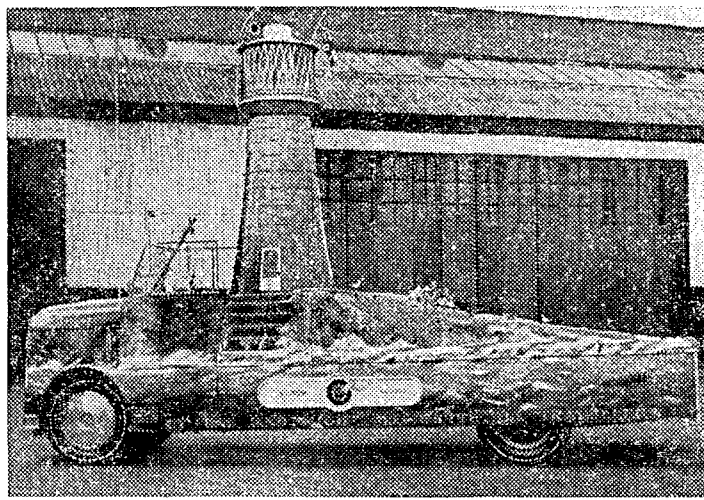
Those galls of more durable form make an extremely interesting collection. Smaller types like the Spangles and Silk-buttons being mounted on cards with a touch of gum, while the larger ones are best kept in separate cardboard boxes.

If CN readers keep their eyes open for these unusual plant growths I am sure they will find them an added and interesting attraction during walks by wayside and woodland.

Modelled masterpieces



Above, Cobham schoolboys stand proudly in front of the new Guildford Cathedral with their model of the building as it will appear when completed. They presented the model to the Guildford New Cathedral Fund, to raise money towards the building costs. Below, a model of the Longships Lighthouse at Land's End, made by Penzance bus workers, is mounted on a trailer for a tour of the country.



NEW CAPITAL FOR RHODESIA

The new Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland is to have a new capital. The Prime Minister of the Federation, Lord Malvern, has announced that a site had been decided upon 4½ miles from Salisbury, the present capital.

New Parliament buildings and Government offices and residences for the Prime Minister and for the representatives of Commonwealth and foreign countries will be built there.

It will of course, be some years before the capital is completed.

SPINNING A MODEL

A six-foot span radio-controlled model has recently been used in developing the technique for getting the 700 m.p.h. Javelin delta wing fighter out of a spin.

The model was carried beneath the car of a balloon to 3500 feet. It was then rotated on its mounting to introduce a spin and dropped.

The pilot handling the radio controls on the ground pulled the miniature Javelin out of its spin and caused it to shoot up in a near vertical climb. A parachute then streamed out and the plane dropped safely to earth.

STAMP ALBUM



THE
WOMAN
WHO
WON A
BATTLE

IN 1822 TRIBESMEN ATTACKED THE NEW SETTLEMENT OF MONROVIA, NOW CAPITAL OF LIBERIA. THE DEFENDING GUNS WERE SILENCED AND VICTORY WAS IN SIGHT. THEN MATILDA NEWPORT RUSHED TO A CANNON AND IGNITED THE POWDER WITH THE ASH FROM HER PIPE! THE UNEXPECTED SHOT PUT THE RAIDERS TO FLIGHT AND MONROVIA WAS SAVED.

THEY LOOK
ALIKE. BUT



LOOK AGAIN

THIS DESIGN KNOWN AS THE "TABLET" TYPE WAS USED BY NEARLY ALL THE FRENCH COLONIES 50 to 60 YEARS AGO. THE NAME OF EACH COLONY APPEARED IN THE TABLET, OR PANEL; THE DESIGN WAS COMMON TO ALL.

THE PONY EXPRESS

THIS SERVICE RAN FOR ABOUT 18 MONTHS FROM 1860, CARRYING MAIL FROM MISSOURI TO CALIFORNIA. THE 1500-MILE JOURNEY WAS MADE OVER PLAINS AND MOUNTAINS BY RIDERS ON RELAYS OF TOUGH MUSTANGS, RED INDIANS WERE FREQUENTLY ENCOUNTERED.

? PUZZLE CORNER?



THIS MONARCH WAS VERY LIKE OUR OWN KING GEORGE V. WHAT WAS HIS NAME AND OVER WHAT COUNTRY DID HE RULE? Answer on back page.

YOUNG MASTERS OF THEIR FÊTE

Over 100 children recently jostled their way into two small neighbouring gardens at Stanmore in Middlesex. The occasion was a fête in aid of Dr. Barnardo's Homes, organised by 14-year-old Christopher Inchley, with the help of his three younger brothers, Alan Hodgson and his brother next door, and a few other friends.

To announce the event a large home-made banner was stretched between the two houses, and comic faces from cereal cartons adorned the fences. Admission was free for everyone under 14, and 2d. was the top price for the numerous side-shows, all thought out by the boys themselves.

Prizes consisted mostly of small tubes of sweets, bought from a fund to which the young organisers had contributed for weeks. But so popular was their show that the prizes began to run out halfway through the afternoon, and Christopher had to make a dash to the nearest sweet-shop.

The first that Dr. Barnardo's knew of all this energy and initiative on their behalf was when they received a cheque for £4 13s. 6d., together with a letter signed by the youngsters responsible. Great work, Christopher and Company!

POCKET TRAIN JOURNEYS

Something of the thrill of travelling on a famous express can be gained from two books small enough to slip into a blazer pocket. They are Alan Anderson's, *The Blue Train* (London-Paris-Mediterranean Coast), and *The Thames-Clyde Express* (London-Leeds-Glasgow), both published by Brockhampton Press at 2s. each.

There is magic in the very name of *The Blue Train*, and the author reveals some of it with pictures, maps, and facts about the run which will be of absorbing interest to all railway lovers. No less fascinating to some is the other little book, taking you north and over the Border.

Steps to Sporting Fame



One brilliant young athlete almost certain to represent Britain in the Olympics next year is Derek Johnson, born in 1933, and now studying medicine at Oxford.



He has been running since he was ten and might already have competed in the Olympic Games. He was a "possible" for Helsinki three years ago, but National Service claimed him and he served as an officer in the East Surrey Regiment.



His military service over, he went to Oxford and put in a winter cross-country running before returning to the track, on which he had set up schoolboy 220 and 440 yards records. He soon revealed himself as outstanding over the half mile.

Derek Johnson



Derek won two gold medals at Vancouver's Empire Games (half-mile and 4 x 440 yards relay) and on August Monday of this year broke Sydney Wooderson's half-mile record. A few days later Derek's record was beaten by Brian Hewson.

SWIMMING FROM EUROPE TO ASIA

One of the favourite sports of the people of Istanbul is swimming from Europe to Asia. It may sound difficult, but compared with swimming the English Channel it is easy. It just means swimming the Bosphorus.

The name "Bosphorus" means a ford for oxen, and it is an interesting thought that in ancient times oxen, too, may have swum the narrowest part of the channel and thus have crossed from one continent to another.

This strip of water, which divides Turkey-in-Europe from Turkey-in-Asia, varies from 2½ miles in the widest part to half a mile in the narrower places.

An average swimmer, provided he goes with the current, can complete the crossing in half an hour, although a record attempt was made in just over eleven minutes, and a five-year-old Turkish boy has actually made the crossing using only his legs.

DOUBLE CROSSINGS

Recently a 63-year-old man swam the Bosphorus in both directions in less than an hour and a half. Not content with this, he decided to make a double crossing of the Dardanelles, the strait, three to four miles wide, leading into the Aegean Sea. His example was later followed by a 16-year-old Turkish boy.

A few hardy swimmers have attempted the Bosphorus crossing in midwinter, but with snow on the ground this is not a popular event. More popular, however, is the swim from the Black Sea to the Sea of Marmora down the whole length of the Bosphorus.

The distance of 18 miles is only three miles less than the shortest distance across the English Channel, from Dover to Cap Gris Nez.

But there is a strong current flowing from the Black Sea to Istanbul and the would-be swimmer, if he did not feel energetic, could float all the way.

MAN-MADE DIAMONDS

Although an American company have recently developed a method of making diamonds, jewellers are not worried that these stones will lose their value.

The largest man-made diamond so far produced is only one-sixteenth of an inch long, and such diamonds are for industrial purposes only. One limiting factor is the extremely high pressure which has to be used to make a diamond artificially, the limit being the strength of the materials available for the apparatus.

Natural diamonds will remain the main source of diamonds for industry and the exclusive source for jewels for many years to come.

A LOT TO ANSWER FOR

Kennedy-Van Dam, of Germiston, South Africa, believes that he has more initials than anyone else in the world.

They are M.R.R.B.B.M.C.F.C!

When he was christened his parents bestowed all his ancestors' names on him and all are on his birth certificate: Maximilian Raoul Richard Bentinck Bourbon-Montpensier Chalous Frison Colzeau Kennedy-Van Dam.

MERRY-GO-ROUND TAKE-OFF

Circular take-offs were first demonstrated in France in 1938. Although they were regarded only as a stunt, Dr. John Winans, a professor of physics at Wisconsin University, believes that planes should *always* take-off and land in circles.

Even on long runways an aircraft taking-off with a faulty engine might overrun the end, finally stopping in a field beyond with possibly disastrous results. But on a circular runway an aircraft tethered to a hub in the centre of a field could keep flying round and round, if necessary, with complete safety.

Earlier this year Dr. Winans demonstrated the circular take-off technique as being completely practical. His Ercoupe monoplane was attached to a spindle and hub by a 400-foot double strand of woven nylon.

Generally the aircraft completes only half a circle before taking-off. Having demonstrated the success of the first half of his theory, Dr. Winans hopes to develop a technique for making a circular landing.

MOULD OF FASHION

To a Leeds tailor goes the credit of finding a way of making suits and costumes without all the usual fittings. His method is to cut his cloth, stitch it up, and fit it on a customer. Then it is sprayed or painted with an acetate plastic solution which both shrinks and hardens the material, which is then moulded to the figure of the wearer.

Footwear can also be made by this process, while some doctors have adapted it for making casts for broken limbs instead of the usual plaster casts.

The process has been filmed and negotiations for putting it on to the market are in progress.

LIGHT ON THE WEATHER

Weather forecasts by coloured light signals is the latest idea from Vienna. On top of one of the city's newest skyscrapers is a 60-foot mast carrying coloured lights which can be switched on in different ways to give weather forecasts in the form of a simple code.

The forecasts should be accurate, too, for they come direct from the Meteorological Office!

THE MASTER OF BALLANTRAE—picture-version of R. L. Stevenson's dramatic story (8)



Mackellar heard from an innkeeper who knew the smugglers' secrets that James was alive. Smugglers had carried him off on the night of the duel. They had been paid by Government agents to come and take him to France, where he spied on his Jacobite comrades. Finding him badly wounded they had taken him to their boat. He had recovered on the voyage, but apparently told them nothing about the duel.



Years passed without news of James. The old lord died and Henry became Lord Durrisdeer. To his unbounded joy his wife had a son, and as the little boy grew, Henry became utterly devoted to him—his heir. These were happy years for the family. Lady Durrisdeer had long ago realised James's true character, and had lost all her former affection for him. It seemed that the dark shadow over Durrisdeer had vanished.



One day James suddenly turned up with a follower he had acquired in India. But Henry's wife had already decided what to do if this ever happened. She owned property in New York, and she persuaded her husband to take them there, to escape his brother's evil influence, and to leave James at Durrisdeer with a small allowance. Mackellar volunteered to remain at Durrisdeer, too, to watch over their interests.



Keeping out of James's way, Lord Henry and his wife made the necessary arrangements with their lawyer, and at night slipped away with their children for Glasgow, to take ship to New York. They begged Mackellar not to tell James where they had gone. But James, who had only come to get money out of Henry, later told Mackellar: "Within a week I will find out where these fools have fled to. I will follow."

Are Lord Henry and his family safe from his brother's evil designs? See next week's instalment

THE SECRET OF BUZZARD SCAR

by Malcolm Saville

Sally and Paul Richardson and Elizabeth Langton are going to explore the big inner cave at Swinnergill with George and Keith, two older boys. While they are at breakfast a mysterious note arrives for Sally who, after reading it, drops it accidentally on the floor. Although she does not miss it on leaving the room, Veronica, her young sister, picks it up and takes her friend, Hugh Langton, outside to read it.

16. The lame cobbler

VERONICA stared at the note and repeated the message: "Find the lame cobbler up 15 steps." Then she handed it to Hugh.

"Let's ask Mrs. Thornton if she knows what it means," he said. "Here she comes. She's been to the shops. Hallo, Mrs. Thornton. I was just saying to Vee that we've got to find you, and here you are like a sort of magic."

The housekeeper stopped and beamed at them. These two could do no wrong in her eyes.

"And good morning to you, loves. Those others are off again with their sandwiches and they'll be waiting for what I've got in the basket. Maybe you'll be coming to see me when they've gone?"

"There's just one thing we want to ask you now, please," Veronica pleaded. "We've got a sort of secret message here. It's a sort of game but this says something we don't know about."

Old George Green

"Bless you, child, but what's all this about a secret message? Let me see. Now my glasses are in the kitchen! What a stupid old woman I'm getting, to be sure!"

"Don't worry, Mrs. Thornton. We'll read it to you. You read it, Vee."

Veronica read it very solemnly and carefully, and Mrs. Thornton laughed.

"That's old George Green, of course. Everybody in t'dale knows George. Down Muker he lives, and 'tis true that his workshop is on the upper floor of an

old cottage, and for all I know 'tis up 15 steps, though I've never counted 'em. The odd thing about George's place is that t' steps go up outside the old place and not inside. Yes, everyone knows old George."

"Thanks very much," Hugh said doubtfully. "Why is he lame, and is he nice? We've got to go and see him, you see."

"Nice, love? Of course he's nice. He's the kindest hearted man I know. Well, I must finish off their sandwiches. Come and see me presently."

"Well," Veronica said, "isn't that exciting? Up 15 steps and he lives in Muker. That's the next village. We'll go and see the cobbler man soon as we can."

Ten minutes later, while Veronica and Hugh were still watching the beck from their favourite position on the wall, the explorers came down the steps. "Here you are, Sall," Veronica said as she passed her the type-written message, "I found this under the dining-room table. You must have dropped it. Is it a secret message?"

Vee and Hugh plan

Sally looked at her doubtfully but decided that it would be wiser not to answer or ask any questions. So she thanked her sister, but was immediately suspicious when she asked, "What's a cobbler, Sall? Nobody ever tells me anything!"

"Don't you say a word about this note, Vee. It's a secret and perhaps one day I'll tell you some more about it. Goodbye."

Veronica and Hugh, with smug smiles on their faces, watched the five explorers go off down the road.

"Now then, Hugh, we've got to go to Muker and find the cobbler up 15 steps. Shall we ask your mother if she's going shopping in the car or shall we walk by ourselves?"

"Not walk," Hugh said. "I heard Mummy say she wanted the car."

It was true that Mrs. Langton

wanted to go into the next village to do some shopping, so there was no difficulty in getting a lift. As soon as they arrived, Hugh said:

"If you don't mind, please, Vee and me want to 'splore this place secretly and alone. May we come back presently and will you promise not to look where we go?"

Mrs. Langton was used to such instructions. "That's all right, darlings. Come back here in half an hour. Don't fall in the beck, and don't stand in the road. Here's sixpence for a bar of chocolate or some sweets."

This was an unexpected wind-fall, so they went straight to a tiny shop which looked as if the same things had been in the window for twenty years. The woman behind



"Come in, and let me make your acquaintance," said the cobbler

the counter was friendly and when Veronica explained that they wanted to see the cobbler she told them how to get to his cottage.

Outside the shop, Hugh carefully divided the bar of chocolate, turned and waved to Mrs. Langton, and then ran across the strip of common bordering the road. It did not take them long to find the old cottage, and they stood for a moment at the bottom of the stone steps and looked at each other.

In the cobbler's shop

"He must be nice. I'm sure he is," Veronica whispered, and hand in hand they climbed up to find the secret of Sally's message.

"Come in, my dears," George Green called as they stood on the threshold. "This is the country for wearing out shoes and this is the place to have 'em mended . . . Come in, and let me make your acquaintance, for I've never seen neither of you before."

The cobbler was sitting on a stool before a wooden bench under a window festooned with cobwebs. There were piles of leather in the corners and chips of leather on the dusty floor, while on shelves around the little workshop were rows of white, wooden clogs.

"Tell me why you've come to see me? Have your shoes worn out?"

"Not exactly," Veronica explained, "we wanted to see you

'cos we saw a secret message which said someone was to come and see you."

"Is that so, my dears. I was expecting somebody older. Where are you staying?"

"We're living at East Gill vicarage," Hugh said. Suddenly there was a shadow across the floor and they turned to see a man standing on the threshold with a pair of heavy shoes in his hands. Although the children did not know him, it was Ginger Whiskers.

He greeted the cobbler as he put his shoes on the end of the bench and turned to the children and said in a friendly way:

"So you're living at the vicarage, are you? I know the older members of your party. Sally, Paul, and Elizabeth are their names, I believe? I was able to help them yesterday when they were lost in the fog. They were with those older boys. What are they doing today?" He reached into his pocket and passed them a large bar of chocolate.

Hugh tells

So Hugh, very pleased with himself, told him the whole story. Proudly he told him about the secret message and how they were left behind when the others decided to explore the big cave behind the waterfall at Swinnergill. But before he had finished the man had gone.

While the children and the cobbler stared at each other in surprise they heard the sound of his footsteps clattering down the stone steps. And when Hugh

went over to the door Ginger Whiskers was running with ungainly strides towards the village street.

"What a funny man," he said. "I was just explaining about everything and off he goes."

"You're not Sally, are you, my dear?" the cobbler said to Veronica. "Of course you're not. Maybe she's your sister? And you say she's exploring the Swinnergill cave? I hope she's taking special care. Who are the older boys?"

Veronica explained about George and Keith.

Special message

"Ah well," the cobbler said, "they'll be all right, I don't doubt. But there's plenty more bad weather about and a lot of water to come down t'fells. Tell your sister Sally from me, love, that I got a special message for her and I reckon she ought to fetch it herself."

The children said goodbye and walked slowly back to the road. Something seemed to have happened to their adventure and they did not quite know what to do about it.

Mrs. Langton was waiting by the car.

"Did you see a man running, Mummy?" Hugh asked.

"Yes. I did, dear; he ran across the grass here and got into a big car driven by a man in thick spectacles. They turned the car and drove back, very fast, up the dale. They were certainly in a hurry!"

To be continued

Wherever you are*

You feel grand when you're chewing

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CHEWING GUM

3 Long-Lasting Flavours



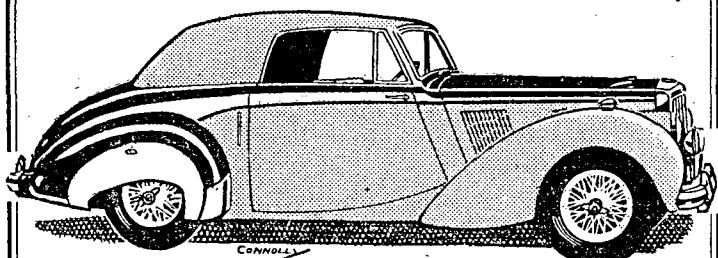
CAN YOU GUESS WHAT COUNTRY THIS IS?

Just look at those mountains if you want a clue! And how about that unusual long horn the boy's blowing? Do you know the answer yet? Yes—it's Switzerland. Were you right?

(EF30.52)

SPORTS CARS OF THE WORLD

A series of forty



28. Alvis (British)

THE Alvis Company have always built a sporting type of car, renowned far and wide for excellent finish and workmanship.

This particular model, the T.C. 21/100, drophead coupé,

has a three-litre, six-cylinder engine, giving 104 b.h.p. at 4000 revs. per minute, and a maximum speed of 100 m.p.h. It has two carburettors and a four speed box. This car has coil spring and wish-bone front suspension.

NEVER A DULL MOMENT

Cycling along a bush track in Africa

The life of a Boys' Brigade chief in Africa is never dull, as is shown by the report of the Rev. F. B. Whale, the B.B. organiser in northern Nigeria.

He says that in visiting an outlying company he had to cycle 15 miles along a bush track which was impassable for cars. It was not the pedalling he found exhausting, but continually having to dismount to negotiate holes in the path, ruts, exposed tree roots, sandy patches, rocks, and streams. Tiring of this, he decided to ride through a stream, so, gathering speed, he dashed down its bank in order to sail through the water and up the other side.

"I had made a miscalculation," he writes, "the front wheel side-slipped and I landed on my back in the soft mud. After that I was more willing to wade through streams."

He was compensated by the grand welcome he received from folk who seldom see visitors, because of the bad roads. And he was further compensated by the pleasure of giving 52 certificates to leprosy patients who were to be discharged as free of symptoms

after undergoing periods of treatment.

The unexpected awaited Mr. Whale at another B.B. camp, at Takkas.

Here he got the boys busily moving a number of large stones to clear a space and make seats for watching games and camp fires. As the last big stone was being moved he asked, in curiosity, how the stones had come to be in their original position. He was informed that they had been placed there in a pattern as a guide to passing aircraft—no one had thought of telling him that before!

So, later, all the stones had to be carefully replaced!

LIGHTWEIGHT HELICOPTER

An American inventor has built a helicopter which, he claims, is as easy to manage as a bicycle. Driven by a two-cylinder engine, it weighs only about 130 lb. and costs about the equivalent of £63.

The inventor, Mr. L. McCarthy, has already made 163 flights on his little machine, a total of 15 flying hours.

SPORTS SHORTS

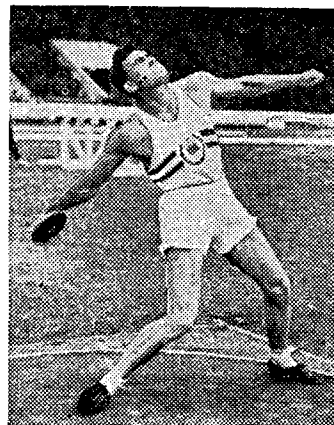
A SECOND Johnny Wardle may soon be making his name in the cricket world. He is the 11-year-old son of the popular Yorkshire and England slow bowler. Playing for Wakefield Grammar School towards the end of the season, young John took seven wickets for one run.

He obviously has learned much from watching his famous father, for he can bowl the googly and the "Chinaman," which have brought his dad so many Test wickets.

THE women's national 100-miles cycling record was broken recently by a Darlington school-teacher, Mrs. Mary Dawson. She covered the distance in 4 hours 34 minutes 3 seconds, beating the two-year-old record by 3 minutes.

ROBINSON is a name that means much in cycle road racing. Brian Robinson earned considerable praise for his efforts in this year's Tour de France, and Desmond, who has now joined his brother as a professional, last month won the nine-day Amateur Circuit of Britain event. Now an-

The discus thrower



Mark Pharaoh of the R.A.F. and Walton A.C. in action at a recent athletics meeting.

THREE of the brilliant Swansea Soccer team that won the English and the Welsh Schools Shields last season, have joined Swansea Town. They are Malcolm Kennedy, Alan Lovell, and Brian Jones, all of whom won their Welsh caps last season. Their Swansea and Welsh Boys' teammates, John and Frank Thomas, who are twins, have joined Cardiff City.

THE Canadian Cricket Association are to invite the M.C.C. to send a representative team to tour Canada in 1957. If the invitation is accepted, it is hoped that three Tests will be arranged, and that these will be the forerunner of a regular series.

Eagles, birdies—and cows

Cows on the Gainsborough Golf Course, Lincolnshire, have become such a menace as golf ball eaters that members had to use fore-caddies to look out for them. One Shorthorn cow darts after a ball as soon as it falls on the fairway, and is known to have eaten half a dozen balls in one day.

ON Saturday the South African tourists will be saying farewell to London cricket followers, for their match against Middlesex, at Lord's, is the Springboks' final game against a County side. Their programme winds up with Festival games at Hastings and Scarborough.

A NEW name will appear next year in the list of grounds staging county cricket matches. Hesketh Park, home of the Dartford C.C., will be the setting for the Kent v. Essex match next May. A new pavilion costing £9000 is being erected there.

Budge!

BUDGE PATTY, the American tennis star, is probably the only player whose nickname is entered in reference books and programmes. His real name is John. We heard the other day how he got his unusual name. It appears that as a boy Patty was inclined to be rather fat and lazy, and to stir him into action his mother used to shout: "Budge!"

THIS weekend is a red-letter date in the lawn tennis calendar, for the Challenge Round of the Davis Cup will take place at Forest Hills, between the U.S., the holders, and Australia. After helping to win the trophy in Sydney last December, Tony Trabert won the French and Wimbledon men's singles titles, but with both he and Victor Seixas out of form owing to injuries it seems that the young Australians—Ken Rosewall, Lewis Hoad, and Rex Hartwig—will regain the trophy.

MCC for Pakistan

IN December a party of M.C.C. cricketers, who will be known as the "A" team, will leave these shores for a tour in Pakistan. Donald Carr, the Derbyshire skipper, will captain the side, and Mr. G. C. Howard, Lancashire's secretary, will be manager of the touring party. Donald Carr, a double Oxford Blue, was vice-captain of the M.C.C. side which toured India and Pakistan in 1951-52, and Mr. Howard was the manager of the last M.C.C. party to Australia and New Zealand.

ONLY a year or so ago Derek Upton gave up wicket-keeping to concentrate on fielding. With Godfrey Evans as brilliant as ever in the Kent side, and Mike Fenner an able deputy, Derek had little chance of taking a regular place in the team. Then a shoulder injury at Soccer prevented him from throwing properly, Mike Fenner went abroad, and Godfrey Evans, often out of the Kent team while playing for England, had to give up the game temporarily because of a broken finger. So, thanks to his Soccer injury, Upton returned to wicket-keeping, and now has a regular place behind the stumps in the Kent team.

Tailor athlete



Brian Hewson, aged 22, Britain's youngest four-minute miler, and new holder of the British All-Comers half-mile record, helps in his father's tailoring workshop at Norbury, in London.

ANNE TOSNEY, aged 13, had a great time at the annual championship gala of the Skipton Swimming Club. She not only won the 50 yards and 25 yards Schoolgirls' race, but the Ladies' Diving Championship, the Ladies' 50-yard handicap, and came second in the Ladies' 100-yard race—a good afternoon's work!

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other Robinson enters the scene. Miss Millie Robinson, of Leeds, was the winner of the recent first-ever three-day international women's road race, held at Roanne, in Central France. Miss Robinson, who comes from the Isle of Man, took a job in Leeds as a van driver in order to gain greater competitive experience among first-class women cyclists.

In the swim

ALL next week the annual A.S.A. Championships are being held in Blackpool. Competition is now so keen among Britain's young swimmers and divers that few of the present title-holders can be certain of retaining their championships. One who may be John Brockway, from Newport, who will be striving to gain his seventh title in the men's 110 yards backstroke event. Tony Turner, last year's springboard and high-diving champion, will not be competing at Blackpool, for he is now studying at Michigan University. This may give Peter Heatly, the Empire champion, the opportunity to regain the titles he formerly held.

LOOKING AT
THE SKY

JULIUS CAESAR'S SCALES

Why they have a place in the Zodiac

SATURN is now the only planet visible to the naked eye either in the evening or in the morning. All the others are grouped apparently too near the Sun to be perceptible.

Saturn may be seen low in the south-west until between 9.30 and 10. Being the brightest "star" in that region it may be easily identified; the accompanying star-map also indicates the planet's position relative to the two chief stars of Libra, the constellation whose Latin name means "The Scales."

The apparent nearness of the bright planet to Alpha and Beta will make it easier to find all three, for at their low altitude the stars will not be conspicuous. At present they seem to be in a line, but this will not continue as Saturn is now apparently travelling toward the left and gradually receding from us. The planet, at present about 948 million miles distant, will, however, linger for several weeks longer in the south-west sky.

There are many stars in the large area of the sky represented by Libra, but Alpha, Beta, and Gamma are the brightest, the multitude of more distant and fainter

ones requiring optical aid to perceive them at Libra's present low altitude.

Beta, brightest of the three, is also known by its ancient Arabic name of Zuben-es-Chamali, which means Northern Claw. It is a sun radiating about 130 times more light than our Sun but from a distance of about 130 light-years' journey. Alpha, known also as Zuben-el-Genubi—Southern Claw—is actually composed of two stars which can be seen apparently close together even through binoculars.

RELATIVE DISTANCE

In reality they are not close together but are seen almost in the line of sight, the brighter of the two being about 60 light-years distant and radiating about twenty times more light and heat than our Sun. The other is upwards of 90 light-years distant. The star Gamma appears fainter because it is 162 light-years away.

In comparing the relative distances of these stars with that of Saturn it will be of interest to note that light, travelling always at the same rate of 186,271 miles a second, takes about 85 minutes to travel the 948 million miles at present separating us from Saturn. It can be seen therefore that to express the distance of these stars of Libra in miles you would have to write a long line of figures. You

might like to work out just how long it is.

It is rather strange that such an inanimate object as a pair of scales should have found a place in that ancient and important belt of constellations known as the Zodiac. This name, which is derived from a Greek word meaning "little figures," suggests that it should be composed entirely of animate beings, as indeed it was until the scales were included.

To find the reason for its inclusion we have to go back to the Roman days, when it was found that the calendar had become more and more out of date and did not fit in with the Romans' annual events and festivities. So Julius Caesar had the calendar reformed.

BORROWING THE CLAWS

Caesar earned much praise for this action and his admirers decided to raise his name to a celestial place. Alpha and Beta, two of the claws of neighbouring Scorpion, were borrowed and Julius Caesar, holding a pair of scales to symbolise the balancing of the calendar, became one of the twelve constellations of the Zodiac.

But in Christian times when Julius Caesar became less popular he lost his position among the stars and only the pair of scales remained as the constellation of Libra. G. F. M.

ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

C N Competition Corner

WHO WANTS A BICYCLE?

A GLEAMING new Hercules Bicycle, complete with accessories and all ready for the road, will go to the winner of this week's competition. There are 5s. Postal Orders for ten runners-up, too! Entry is free, and open to all readers under 17 living in Great Britain, Ireland, and the Channel Islands.

All you are asked to do is to study the seaside scene illustrated below and find 18 different objects in it beginning with the letter "S." List them neatly on a postcard or piece of plain paper (18 only, and all different, remember, although there are, in fact, more than that). Add your full name, age, and address, ask an adult to sign it as being your own unaided work, then post to:

C N Competition No. 35,

3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.),

to arrive by Tuesday, September 6, the closing date.

The prize Bicycle—junior or full-size model as required—will be awarded for the entry which is correct, and the best written according to age. Postal Orders for the ten next best. The Editor's decision is final.



Susan's STORK LETTER



Hello there,

France is renowned as the land of good cooking, but you don't need to go to France to find a dish that is typically French, and delicious to eat. Further down on this page you can see how to make an omelet for yourself. Follow the directions carefully, and you should produce a dish of which any French cook would be proud!



A pavement café in Paris

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

ALEXANDRA

This delightful, and unusual name means 'helper'.

AMY

This name has a charming meaning. It is from the French *Aimée* which is 'a person who is loved'.

WENDY

This name means 'a wanderer'.

GWYNETH

This is a Welsh name, and very popular in that country. It means 'blessed'.

STEP-BY-STEP COOKERY
SHOWS YOUHOW TO MAKE
AN OMELET

YOU NEED

- 1 oz. Stork Margarine (Stork will give it that truly 'French' flavour!)
- 2 tablespoons chopped, cooked ham for filling
- 2 eggs
- Pepper and salt



1 Melt $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of Stork in a frying pan. Make sure the pan is perfectly clean. Tilt the pan so that the melted Stork covers the whole surface.



2 Whisk up the eggs just enough to mix the yolks and whites together thoroughly. Add seasoning.



3 When the Stork is just beginning to brown pour half the mixture into the pan. Stir with a fork, until it has begun to set.



4 When it has set underneath, yet is still a little soft on top, add 1 tablespoon of diced ham, and carefully fold the omelet in half. Take off the heat, slide out of the pan on to a hot plate and serve at once. Make the second omelet in exactly the same way.

This will
make
two omelets!

That's all for this month. I hope your omelet will be a great success with the family! And if there's a particular recipe you want to know don't forget to write and ask me.

Yours,

Susan Croft

Stork Letter Box,
55 Queen Anne Street,
London, W.1.

THE BRAN TUB

PUTTING IT BLUNTLY

THERE was an angry roar from the bathroom. "What's the matter, dear?" asked the wife. "My razor," cried the husband, "it doesn't cut at all." "Don't be silly. Your beard can't be tougher than those pencils I sharpened."

NAME THE FLOWERS

The words missing from the lines below are all names of flowers. What are they?

1. "Down in a green and shady bed
A modest — grew."
2. "O —, yellow as gold,
What do you do all night?
I wait and wait till the cool dews
fall,
And my hair grows long and
white."
3. "The —, the little children's
dower,
Far brighter than this gaudy
melon flower."
4. "Ring-a-ring of —,
A pocket full of posies."
5. "—'s blue, diddle diddle,
Rosemary's green."
6. "Consider the — of the
field, they toil not,
Neither do they spin."

Answer in column 5

PROVERB TO REMEMBER

To err is human; to forgive,
divine.

NIMROD'S CITY

CAN you make another word out of each of the following words by rearranging the letters? If you do it correctly—the first letters of the new words will spell the name of an ancient city.

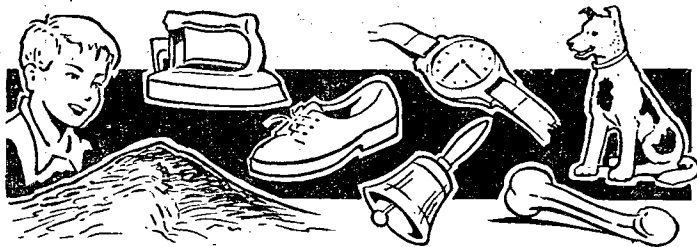
SNORE FINER DAMON
HEART SEVER THREE
RHONE

Answer in column 5

ADD AN ANIMAL

Eight words are illustrated here. By putting the name of an animal in front of each, you can get eight more words.

Answer in column 5



BEDTIME TALE

BILLY GETS A SOAKING

It was a really warm day and Billy, wearing only a pair of shorts, was sitting in the garden reading. Suddenly he felt a spot of rain on his arm.

He looked up at the sky, but there was not a cloud to be seen. Then he felt another splash on his cheek—and caught sight of Paul ducking behind a hedge in the next garden, a water-pistol in his hand.

"A battle it is," cried Billy as he dashed indoors to get his own water-pistol. Soon the lads were having a great game, getting thoroughly damp and enjoying every minute.

Just then Daddy came home from the office. "Oh, you want to play with water, do you?" he chuckled as he caught sight of the boys.

He went to the garden shed and brought out the hose.

"Come on, you two," he said. "You can really soak yourself with this—and at the same time you can give the garden a good soaking, too."

Never had work seemed so much fun to Billy and Paul as they aimed the hose at each other while Daddy sat back and watched his garden being watered.

JACKO ON TOW AT HIGH SPEED



Jacko and Bouncer had a thrilling time skiing at the seaside. Chimp at the wheel of a powerful motor boat towed them along at terrific speed. He managed to keep a very straight course—but not his cap. However, Jacko was able to save it from a watery end.

HOW TOADSTOOLS CAME

ST. PETER and his Master
Were walking one fine day;
The hungry Peter carried bread
To eat upon the way.

Each time he took a mouthful
His Master turned around
To speak to him, so Peter dropped
Some pieces on the ground.

A wondrous thing then happened,
The bread had vanished quite;
And in its place a shiny ring
Of mushrooms glistened white.

The evil one was watching,
And thought he'd do the same,
But all his bread grew badly—
And that's how toadstools came.

IN SHORT

THE teacher had asked the class to write about their favourite dog, and describe it. One of the boys in the class had a dachshund for a pet and his description of the dog ran like this: "My pet dachshund is exactly half a dog high and nearly two dogs long."

CHANGE HEADS!

Each line is the clue to a four-letter word. Only the first letter is different in each word, the other three being the same every time. What are the words?

ON finger and toe;
Lament and cry "Woe!"
It is carried in bags;
What every dog wags;
Here walls must be stout;
This drops—and you're out;
What is under a train?
Much harder than rain!

Answer in column 5

FACTS ABOUT ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

THE City of London's Cathedral, it is the third to stand on the site.

The present building was begun by Christopher Wren in 1675 and finished in 1710.

It cost nearly three-quarters of a million pounds to build.

It covers about two acres and is nearly half a mile round the exterior.

It is 515 feet long and 250 feet across the transepts.

The Dome, seen from outside, is 148 feet across; it has an inner shell 108 feet across.

The top of the cross is 365 feet above the street.

A whisper near the wall can be heard all round the interior of the Dome.

WHAT IS HE DOING?



This Water Board engineer is tracing a water main running under the pavement in London's Trafalgar Square.

TANGLED TOURISTS

In the following paragraph the letters of the words printed in italics can be rearranged to spell the names of two South African cricketers at present touring this country. Who are they?

AN uncut diamond may resemble a piece of dull rock. In its finished state its face will flash like fire.

Answer in column 5

INCOMPETENT

HANDEL once undertook to play the congregation out of church after the service. But in a few moments all were so entranced that they stayed to listen. At length the regular organist waved him aside saying: "You cannot dismiss a congregation. See how soon I can disperse them."

SPOT THE . . .

YOUNG CUCKOO as he perches with gaping beak, demanding to be fed. Approach him and he will puff his feathers, rear his head and hiss angrily. Despite this a ggressive appearance he is pathetically defenceless, as his feeble claws and soft bill show. Fortunately for him, other birds take an interest in his welfare, and various species help to satisfy his huge appetite.

Some people feel anger towards cuckoos because of the heartless manner in which they eject eggs and young from the foster-parents' nest. The chosen parents, however, show little concern, being busily occupied in feeding the monstrous intruder and having little time to grieve.

Cuckoos themselves do immense good, as their diet consists of various garden pests.

OUT OF PLACE

WHICH of these things is out of place?

Slipper, shoe, sandal, gaiter, sock.

Gaiter, worn on the leg

DOWN AND OUT

BILLY: "Did you know that I was once very happy to be down and out?"

Alf: "Really, and when was that?"

Billy: "After my first aeroplane trip."

WORD SQUARE

CAN you rearrange the letters in each row across, without moving any letter away from its row, to form a word square, with the same five words across as down?

A S P I N
R O W A R
E T I R A
E N T O D
D E W E S

Answer below

WHO LITTLE FISHES, WHO?

LITTLE fishes in the water,
Who has taught you how to swim?
Has your mother or your father
Shown you how to use each fin?

Little fishes in the water,
Who has taught you how to dive?
How to glide and not to falter,
How to live and how to thrive?

AFTER THE SERMON

"I DON'T mind you looking at your watch," a preacher remarked to one of his congregation, "but I do object to you looking so surprised and shaking it."

STAMP ALBUM ANSWER

Nicholas II, King of Russia

ANSWER TO WORD QUIZ

1c, 2b, 3a, 4c, 5b

BRAN TUB ANSWERS

Name the flowers. 1. Violet. 2. Dandelion. 3. Buttercup. 4. Roses. 5. Lavender. 6. Lilies. Nimrod's City. Norse, Infer, Nomad, Earth, Verse, Ether, Heron—Nineveh

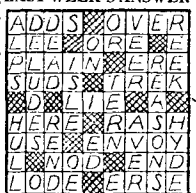
Add an animal. Cow-boy, pig-iron, dog-watch, bull-dog, horse-shoe, mole-hill, hare-bell, whale-bone

Change heads. Nail, LAST WEEK'S ANSWER
wail, mail, tail, jail,
bail, rail, hail

Tangled tourists.
Fuller, Adcock

Word square

P A I N S
A R R O W
I R A T E
N O T E D
S W E D E



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